

THE DIGGERS

Dorchester Garden Club

August 10, 2012

Mark Your Calendars

AUGUST 2012

- 18 Canning and Preserving: Laurie Boswell,
Baltimore City Farms 10:00 a.m. Greenhouse
classroom at the Cylburn Arboretum

SEPTEMBER 2012

- 3 Labor Day
- 6 Blue Star Memorial Dedication at the World
War II Memorial Annapolis, MD
- 8 *Traditional Line Design* Floral Design 101
Workshop Series at the Greenhouse
Classroom, Cylburn Arboretum 10:00 a.m. –
12 Noon
- 11 State Board Meeting
- 15 10:00 a.m. Composting and putting your
garden to bed : Greenhouse Classroom at
the Cylburn Arboretum
- 21 11:00 a.m. Friendship Tea Ikebana
International Baltimore Chapter 118 *public
welcome* Greenhouse Classroom, Cylburn
Arboretum. R.s.v.p. by September 14 to Jill
Breen, 410-571-7720 or edjill215@aol.com
- 21 Waynesboro Plant Health Care for Urban
Trees Workshop
- 22 *Traditional Line Mass Design* Floral Design
101 Workshop Series at the Greenhouse
Classroom, Cylburn Arboretum 10:00 a.m. –
12 Noon
- 27 District I Semi-annual Meeting
- 29 Oxford Garden Club presents a Standard
Flower Show "Rock 'n Roll Revival" at the
Oxford Community Center, Oxford, MD.
The Show is free and open to the public
from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.
- 29 *Creative Line & Line Mass Design* Floral
Design 101 Workshop Series at the
Greenhouse Classroom, Cylburn Arboretum
10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

OCTOBER 2012

- 2-4 Flower Show School Course IV at the
Comfort Inn in Bowie, MD with Dottie
Howatt teaching Horticulture which will
be Mum and Collections and Displays and
Cacti and Succulents. Julia Clevett is
teaching Design which will include Tables
both Functional and Exhibition and Small
and Petite Designs.
- 5-6 "Symposium 2012" Comfort Inn, 4500 Crain
Highway, Bowie, MD. Instructors will be
Treece Chancellor, Master Flower Judge
who teaches Design, Flower Show
Procedure and Symposiums, and David
Robson, Master Judge and NGC Flower
Show School Instructor in Horticulture.
Chairmen: Susie Middleton 410-228-5756 or
Bonnie Stevens 410-226-5383

*Note: registration information for all programs
can be found on the State Website*

Welcome Our New Provisional Members

Add them to your directories

Ellen Higgins
4320 Roslyn Farm Road
Trappe, MD 21673
ellenhiggins@gmail.com
410.476.4330

Jennie Rideout
114 Mill Street
Cambridge, MD 21613
jennie@millstinn.com
410.901.9144

Also Peggy Van Huizen will be moving from Active
to Associate Member status.

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Garden Chores for the Month of August

Water is your most important nutrient this month. If there is not enough rain be sure to water deep and early in the day

Dividing.

You can divide phlox, daylilies and iris this month. Start marking plants that need dividing next spring as well. I like to put a stake there so I know what to do. I always forget come April.

Transplanting

You can transplant some of the broadleaf evergreens late this month. Be sure to water them in well and continue to water them through the fall.

Harvesting

Harvest your vegetables early in the morning when the sugar content is highest. Be sure to not let any large vegetables rot on the vine. Remove diseased plants. Late in the month top your tomatoes by cutting off the top of the plant and removing the new flowers. They won't form tomatoes anyway and the energy will go into ripening the fruit.

Fertilize

Don't use high amounts of fertilizer this month. Stop fertilizing roses by mid-month in the north and late month in the south. You want them harden off for winter

Soil

Have your soil tested this month. September is a great month to grow grass and knowing what your soil needs is a great first step to a healthy lawn



Christmas cactus

Move the Christmas Cactus outside this month. They flower best with 45 days of nights below 55. Place it in the shade, not in the hot sun. They will burn in full-sun. Cover during light frosts and be sure to bring it in before a hard freeze.

Fall bulbs

Order your fall bulbs early so you get the best selection. Get with your neighbors to order in bulk and lower the price per bulb.

U-Pick

Look for a local U-Pick that has peaches. You won't believe the difference!

Lawns

Dig up a one square foot area and check for white grubs. If you see more than 10 you might think about treating chemically, if you have less than that use an organic control

Crabgrass is a problem in the northern climates. The good news is that it is an annual. It will begin to die out by the end of the month. Rake or pull it out and reseed the lawn late in August in zones 3, 4 and 5 and wait until September elsewhere.

ource:

<http://www.growingwisdom.com/Growing-Wisdom-August-Garden-Chores/35/1/352/>

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Looking for Native Plants at a Bargain?

The Adkins Arboretum Native Plant Nursery boasts the area's largest selection of ornamental native plants for the Chesapeake Bay gardener since 1985. The Nursery carries an extensive selection of trees and shrubs, perennials, grasses, ferns, and vines. Some of the plants grown at the Nursery are propagated and grown from locally collected seeds and cuttings.



A dedicated group of volunteers and interns works with the Arboretum staff to maintain the Nursery. The Nursery has four coldframes and a propagation greenhouse, totaling about 6,000 square feet of growing space. The Nursery is expanding to incorporate several gardens to display plants and collect seeds and cuttings. Three new composting beds help recycle some of the organic matter generated from the Nursery, grounds, gardens, and buildings.

Why Use Natives?

Before the settlers, before the explorers, the Chesapeake region's landscape was filled with oaks and sassafras, grasses like switchgrass, hibiscus that filled the wetlands, and goldenrods that graced the meadows. Those 'native' plants thrived because they were particularly adapted to an area. In addition, the insects, birds, and wildlife depended on those plants for survival.



As stewards of our landscape, we have an obligation to curb the use of non-native species of plants. Non-natives can be invasive and can choke out natural fauna. They reduce the genetic diversity of the native plant community, and more often than not they do not provide food for the local wildlife.

The Nursery opens for the season on April 15 and closes for the winter on November 1.

Native Plant Nursery Hours
Monday–Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Weekend hours by arrangement.

Mark your calendars for their Fall Plant Sale on September 14-16.

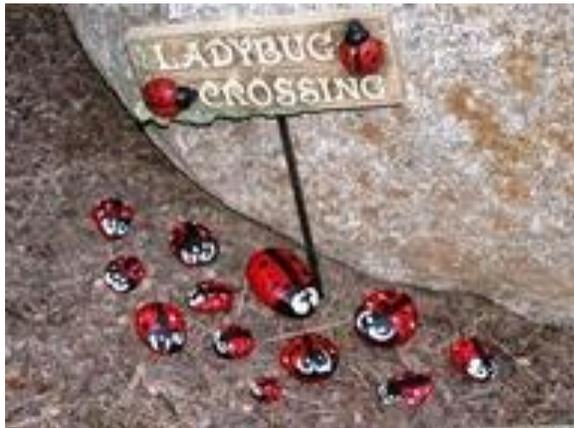
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Seen in the garden...

.....creative ideas from the web!



A great idea for plant markers in your garden!



Got other ideas? Please share them!